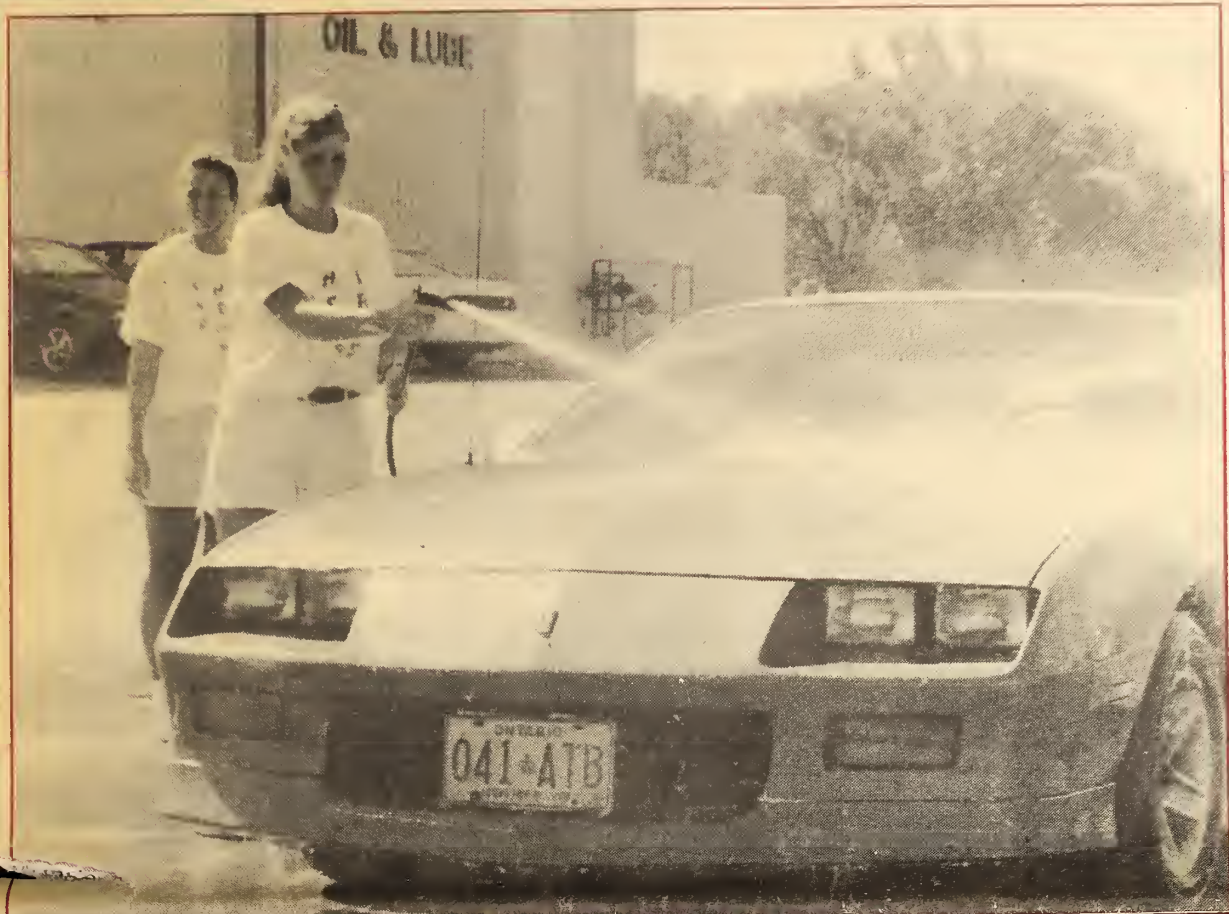


## April Showers



Third year management studies student Barb Mateju watches DSA Vice President of Operations April Dawn Blackwell give a car a good soak at the DSA's second annual Shinerama on Sept. 9, 1995. (Photo by Sean Webb)

## DSA sparkles with Shinerama

### Conestoga students wash and shine for Cystic Fibrosis

By Sean Webb

The Doon Student Association (DSA) held its second annual Shinerama Sept. 9 to raise funds for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CF).

Conestoga College students from the Doon campus were stationed at several locations in the Kitchener-Waterloo area and shined anything with a dull finish they could find for a small donation.

First year general business student Pedro Soussa said that his group dealt with more complaints and obscenities than last year, but were generally well received and had a great time.

"They're doing an excellent job, even better than a car wash," said Waterloo resident John Myers.

Second year nursing student Maureen Nahrgang said that she would participate in Shinerama again next year.

Nahrgang said she had fun, but more organization would be advisable for next year.

DSA Entertainment Assistant Gavin FitzPatrick said he had done charity work before, but not on a campaign as aggressive as Shinerama.

FitzPatrick was one of four drivers

who provided transportation and additional supplies to participants. Eight vans were made available to the DSA for Shinerama, but only four drivers met the minimum age requirement of 25 needed to drive the vans.

The four vans used were provided by Galt Chrysler-Dodge, Cambridge Honda, Tilden and Steven's Lincoln-Mercury.

**"They're doing an excellent job, even better than a car wash."**

- John Myers  
Waterloo resident

Although FitzPatrick would like to have seen more volunteers he was thankful to those who did.

"They're doing all the grunt work, were doing the driving and organizing," he said.

The morning started at 8:30 with a pancake breakfast served in the new student lounge. Each volunteer was given a free Shinerama T-shirt.

Beaver foods provided pancake mix and syrup free of charge to the DSA, and also helped clean up afterwards.

James Frank and his daughter Mary

spoke to the volunteers about cystic fibrosis before they set out for their designated locations.

Mary explained how she took various medications, and demonstrated how her air compressor and mask operated.

During the day she visited some of the Shinerama locations and helped the other volunteers.

A delegation of approximately 40 volunteers, including DSA President Dawn Mittelholtz, went to the Rodeway Suites to recruit more volunteers at 9:30 a.m. Despite yelling, knocking on doors and honking car horns only a few residents joined the delegation when they returned back to campus.

Domino's provided and delivered free pizza to all of the DSA's shining locations.

At the end of the day a free barbecue was held for all the volunteers at the Condor Roost, located in the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre.

At the Condor Roost a hand full of volunteers cooled off with a friendly water fight.

Shinerama sponsors included: Beaver Lumber, Chonar Inc., Conestoga College Alumni Association, Beaver Foods, New Dominion Bakery and the Rodeway Suites.

*"Keeping  
Conestoga College  
connected"*

## This week in the news

### New changes to OSAP pick-up

The registrar's office says the changes to OSAP pick-up have sped up the process considerably. Although more students are attending Conestoga than in previous years, OSAP hasn't had to turn any students away.

For details see page 2

### DSA offering information hotline

The Doon Student Association (DSA), with the help from Conestoga's telephone system co-ordinator, Margaret Struck, is now offering an information hotline which offers the most up-to-date news about the DSA and activities, entertainment and events.

For details see page 3

### G.L.A.D. opens door for new school year

Joan Magazine, a counsellor from student services says Gays/Lesbians at Doon are hoping to reach out to new students. Students interested in G.L.A.D. are invited to attend a meeting on Monday Sept. 18 at 4 p.m.

For details see page 3

### Prick Up Your Ears

Students can now listen to their own radio stations as Conestoga's CJLT and CRKZ began broadcasting last Wednesday.

For details see page 7

### Special Needs Office helps in transition

Conestoga's physically challenged students receive assistance through the work of the special needs office. From books on tape to sign language interpreters, the centre offers services throughout the school.

For details see page 9

### Lulu's gets a Bad Habit

Colin James continued his Canadian Tour with a stop at Lulu's on Friday Sept. 8. He put on a blistering display of his own signature blues, new and old.

For details see page 10

### Wanderlust does not cut it

Wanderlust, a new pop-rock group with an edge, puts out a CD that falls short of the mark. Deena Noble reviews a band she says "falls out on the sounding good list."

For details see page 11

#### Also inside

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# CAMPUS NEWS

News Editor: Pete Smith 748-5366

## News Briefs

### AIDS Awareness Week

- The DSA is having an AIDS awareness week beginning October 1. Sponsor sheets can be picked-up in the DSA office. For more information contact April-Dawn Blackwell.

### CAA memberships coming

- The CAA will be offering discount memberships to Conestoga students in October. The memberships will be available for \$48 instead of \$63.

### Remembrance Day activities

- The DSA is looking for students with any ideas for Remembrance Day activities. Also, any students willing to volunteer to help with the activities can contact the DSA office.

### Grand opening

- Conestoga College is holding an official opening ceremony for its new School of Business facility at Doon. Corporate and community contributors are invited to come Sept. 18, at 4:30 p.m.

### Doon Heritage fall fair

- The villagers and farmers at Doon Heritage Crossroads are having their annual fall fair and antique show on Sunday, September 17 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Volunteer Fair

- The Volunteer Action Centre is inviting everyone to the annual Volunteer Fair September 29 and 30. The fair, being held at Fairview Mall, presents people with the opportunity to find volunteer positions to match their own interests and skills.

#### CORRECTIONS

In the September 11 issue of Spoke, Bruce Manion's name was omitted from his cartoon. Spoke regrets the error.

# College to host workshop for area single parents

By Deena Noble

On Sept. 30, approximately 100 people are expected to arrive at the Guelph campus of Conestoga College for the third annual Day of Workshops for Single Parents.

The number of people in attendance is expected to double in size since the first single parent meeting held, said Irene Brenner who works at the YMCA-YWCA in Guelph which is co-hosting the event with Conestoga College.

Brenner said people go because it is affordable. The cost \$10 for the day including lunch and child care, and there are a variety of workshops that focus on important issues parents can choose to attend.

The workshops, Brenner said, are designed to help single parents meet others like themselves, share ideas and participate in activities that may be beneficial to them.

According to Brenner, the morning is dedicated to a mixture of workshops dealing with topics such as stress management where relaxation methods will be demonstrated, discussions on unique parenting experiences of a single parent and budgeting.

A financial consultant will address issues concerning education, explain how to plan for retirement and discuss tax and estate planning. Afternoon workshops concentrate on areas that deal with custody

rights for the custodial and non-custodial parent, family law and goal setting.

Effective communication is another workshop which uses role-playing as a teaching aide to learn how to deliver your message effectively and how to be an active listener.

Two action workshops, which are open forums, will also be offered. In the first, a speaker from the community health centre will speak on coping with the 21.6 per cent welfare cuts and how current government policies may affect single parents, Brenner said.

The second action workshop will be an open discussion between speakers and parents about the type of care their children are receiving and the high costs of daycare, said Brenner.

Parents will also have the opportunity to network and to learn how to develop a babysitting co-op.

Brenner said the Workshops began when the YMCA-YWCA invited single parents to get together and focus on important issues in their lives. Since then the event has grown and it is also about sharing information, giving support and getting to know others.

To sign up for the Day of Workshops for Single Parents, you must register by Sept. 22 at the YMCA-YWCA in Guelph or pick up a registration form.

## A DAY OF WORKSHOPS FOR SINGLE PARENTS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1995

AT

CONESTOGA COLLEGE  
460 SPEEDVALE AVE. W.



Co-hosted by:

The YMCA - YWCA  
of Guelph  
(519) 824-5150

Conestoga  
College

# Changes to OSAP pick-up successful, says financial aid

By Amy Wroblewski

Late registration and Ontario Student Assistance Program pick-ups are being handled differently than in previous years and it has been a success said Carol Walsh, a financial aid officer at the Registrar's office.

"We have as many if not more students picking up OSAP," she said. "It's just as busy, but we feel its moved quicker with less line-ups."

Over 2000 OSAP applications have been processed to date.

Walsh said the reason for the success the hiring of five students to help in the process and students completing their own forms.

The five students handled traffic at the front counter by directing students and providing necessary documents she said.

Previously, students worked one-on-one with registration staff to complete their Verification of Enrolment form from the Ministry of Education, Walsh said. This year, students completed their own forms and received their loan documents.

"We've been able to accommodate everyone who came in each day."

Walsh said the registrar's office was afraid some students would fall between the cracks because the Toronto Dominion Bank and the Bank of Montreal dropped out

of the loan program.

"CIBC, the Royal Bank and the Bank of Nova Scotia have all set up procedures where they will take the students new loans and transfer their old loans," she said. "It's worked out very well and has gone smoothly."

To ensure loans are processed quickly, Walsh suggests having all paperwork and identification in order.

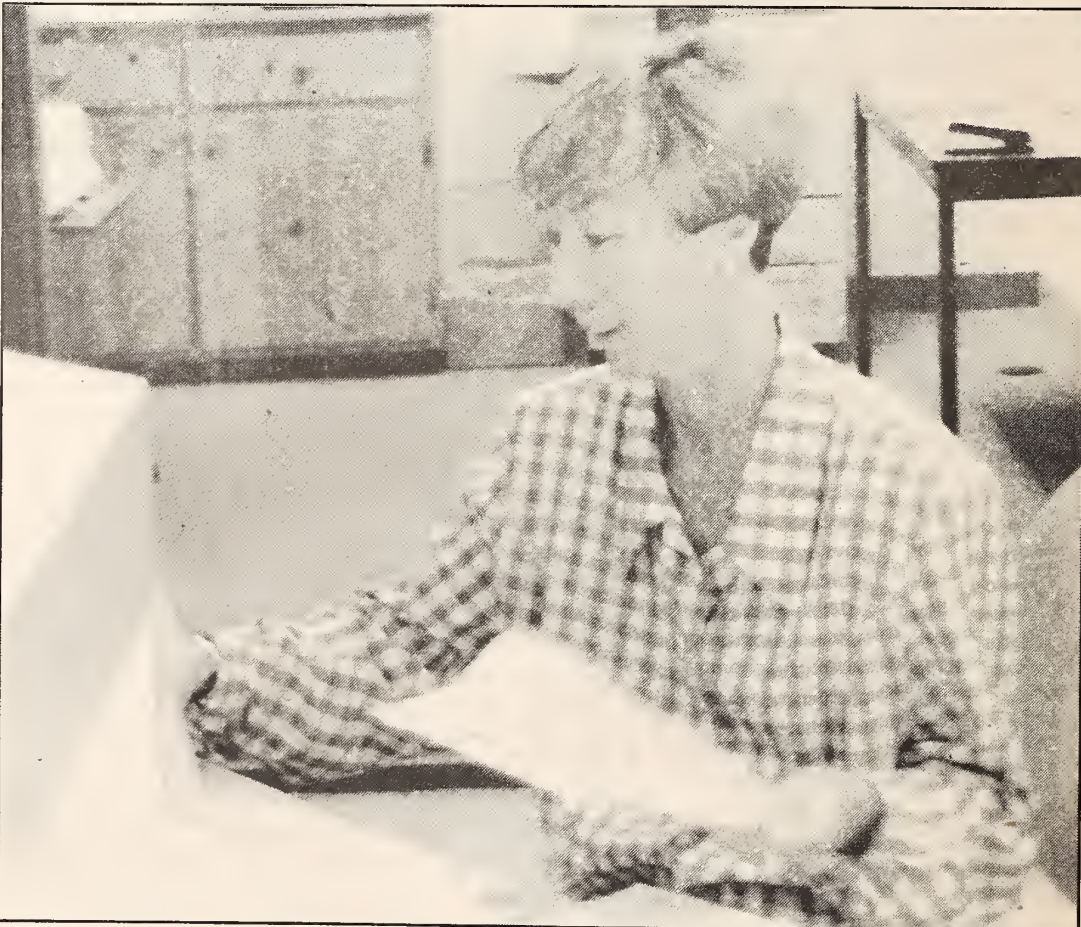
Walsh said the registrar's office is also accommodating late registrations like extending tuition payment until OSAP is available.

**"We have as many if not more students picking up OSAP. It's just as busy, but we feel it's moved quicker with less line-ups."**

-Carol Walsh  
Financial Aid officer

For students who don't have any funds available and aren't able to borrow, the College Emergency fund is available. It assists in paying for parking, books and miscellaneous expenses for programs. Also, for students staying in Residence, the office will write a letter to Rodeway Suites Conestoga confirming OSAP and registration status.

Students late in registering should try to borrow money, if



Cathy Forbes, a financial aid officer at the registrar's office, has been busy helping students with their OSAP.

(Photo by Amy Wroblewski)

possible, advises Walsh.

She adds it is also important to be careful in completing OSAP forms

because mistakes will cause delays of up to four weeks.

Students with questions should

refer to the Canada Student Loans Program Guide or call the Registrar's office.



## CAMPUS NEWS

### Cash flow



Amber Newing, security guard at Conestoga College's Doon Campus, empties a parking meter outside the student/client services building.  
(Photo by Steve Tuckwood)

Let your fingers do the walking . . .

## New DSA phone hotline keeps students informed

By Anna C. Done

The Doon Student Association (DSA) has gone into the telephone information line business, but there are no 1-900 numbers and per-minute charges here.

The DSA now has their own telephone hotline which gives students access to the most up-to-date information about the DSA, upcoming activities, events, and entertainment.

After coming up with the idea some months ago, April-Dawn Blackwell, DSA vice-president of student affairs, says she is excited about the new hotline. "It was operating during registration week, but now we are just starting to promote the service."

Blackwell said she feels it is the responsibility of the DSA to keep students informed about the services the DSA offers and what they are doing for students. "Having the information hotline was some-

thing I felt the DSA could do for the students."

Blackwell said that the hotline is a great way to reach as many students as possible.

"Students at Conestoga have very different schedules so this is an easy way for students to access information 24 hours-a-day," she said.

The DSA information hotline, which took only a week to get set up and running, uses Conestoga College's existing voice-mail system, so cost nothing to set up or administer.

Blackwell said that implementing the system was co-ordinated by Margaret Struck, a finance administrator at the college who is also in charge of the voice-mail system.

While the system is currently functional, Blackwell said that there is going to be some minor changes made in the coming weeks.

"At the moment, once you have finished listening to the message, the system disconnects you," Blackwell said.

"Soon, the system will loop back and allow you to choose another message that you would like to listen to."

In order to access the DSA hotline, students must call the school's central number at 748-5220 and then enter the extension 8-DSA, or 8372.

The student will then be given the option of listening to a message about entertainment by pressing number one, activities by pressing number two, events by pressing number three, or DSA information by pressing number four.

At present, Blackwell records all the messages herself but says that eventually the people who are responsible for the different areas will be recording their own messages.

## G.L.A.D. opens door for new year

By Amy Wroblecki

It's the start of another school year and the door is open at G.L.A.D.

G.L.A.D. stands for Gays/Lesbians At Doon, a support group that provides homosexuals with the chance to meet and talk.

Joan Magazine, a counsellor at Student Services, said although the support group is relatively small, they hope to reach new students at Conestoga through posters and ads.

"I'm sure there is a larger population of gays and lesbians than we've witnessed," she said. "If you have enough people then it can become an ongoing and regular group."

Currently, the group consists of about four members.

Magazine said the group was afraid to go totally public because

they didn't know what kind of reaction they would receive from the college community.

Although there have been incidents of vandalism to the posters and rude comments made, she said the general response towards G.L.A.D. has been positive.

"I've had people say they like the way there are options and opportunities for gays and lesbians to get together," she said.

Magazine said there is a need for G.L.A.D. because socially, college is a time for fun and dating.

She said it is frustrating because a guy couldn't take his boyfriend to the college pub without making a scene.

"We know there is heavy-duty homophobia out there and so if you are homosexual, your life is different," she said. "It's pretty isolating and therefore it's important to meet other people."

Interested students are welcome to attend a meeting on Monday Sept. 18 at 4 p.m. in Student Services. Contact Joan Magazine in room 2BC2 for more information.

# WANTED

## Al Junky

(A.K.A. All Garage Sale Junkies)

Armed with money and considered dangerous

Round-up at the Fall Equinox Garage Sale  
DOON CAMPUS (Main cafeteria)

Thursday, Sept. 21, 1995  
at 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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and  
an assortment of baked goods.

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# OutSPOKEn Opinions



"Keeping Conestoga College connected"

est. 1967

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Unsolicited submissions must be sent to the editor at the above address by 9:30 a.m. Monday. Submissions are subject to acceptance or rejection and should be clearly written or typed; a WordPerfect 5.0 file would be helpful. Submissions must not contain any libellous statements and may be accompanied by an illustration (such as a photograph).

## Conestoga Corner



By Leanne  
Moses

### Students keep off the grass

"And the sign said, you've got to have a membership card to get inside."

A satirical song in the 1970s called Signs, by the Five Man Electrical Band, bewailed numerous signs designed to "keep all the people out and keep all the scenery in."

And while the song was lamenting the rigid rules and regulations of what they perceived as a conservative, hypocritical society, also known as "the establishment," the idea for the song came to the band while they were driving down a California freeway with its ubiquitous signs destroying the view along the beautiful coast.

At the Doon campus, the 1990s version of the song could be called Fences, in honor of the new fence surrounding the new business wing.

On a corporeal level, it is simply an eyesore.

After spending more than \$4 million to build an attractive new business wing, in one fell swoop, the view was spoiled with an unattractive fence.

Worse, however, is the symbolism behind the chainlinks.

A fence is a barrier generally designed to protect one's property and specifically to keep people out.

Students like to take shortcuts. Students like to walk on grass. And students even — heaven forbid — like to sit on the grass occasionally. But hey . . . what gives them the right?

It may be only a fence and, to many, not a big deal. But what it represents is a shift in the ideals and attitudes of college administration over the last three decades.

In 1968, when the college opened its doors to a brand new educational concept, that of the community college, it was indeed a student-centred institution. And if students wanted to sit on the grass, it was no big deal in a liberal institution such as it was.

Every institution evolves. That evolution often involves a trend to the more conservative because those who make decisions feel they have more to protect than those who don't have a stake in the decision making. This trend in and of itself is not necessarily bad - except when the decision-makers forget what their purpose was in the first place. A college is a place of learning for students.

There should be no need to put up barriers in an institution that exists for students. If the college administration feels a need to put up fences for fear of vandalism or property damage, they ought to think again.

Vandalism is caused, not by people who have a stake in or responsibility for something, but by people who feel excluded. And barriers exclude.

Erecting barriers does not prevent vandalism. It encourages it by creating us and them: us on the outside; them on the inside.

Forget the fence. Forget us and them. Students have already paid an enormous membership fee to get inside.

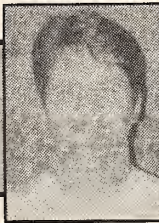
It's called tuition.



Ya got something better? No problem we'll terminate ya!

CONESTOGA'S HEALTH PLAN  
Edison '95 R. Edwards

## Just A Thought



By Kean Doherty

### Students made pawns in parking lot

It's a familiar story this time of year. If you were unfortunate enough to be a pawn in the parking-pass morass, welcome to the club. It's an exclusive club that you need not apply to or go through an extensive background check for.

As I was so rudely reminded, as were many others, the privilege of obtaining a parking pass is on a first-come first-serve basis only. While it seems highly unfair to some and a grave injustice to have to pay \$2.25 for a daily pass, I'm sure security is just making the best of a bad situation.

Somehow, though, I get the feeling this situation could be rectified with minimal trouble.

What is being alluded to is the sad state of parking here and the unwitting students who must somehow cope with it at a time when they shouldn't have to.

It has come to my attention that an influx of students from other campuses is part of the problem. But the excuse given does not make any sense.

Security staff have said on a number of occasions already that they have no more semester passes for sale and that a waiting list is being created. The waiting list, however, makes no sense.

It makes no sense because I have seen the state of parking in the lots designated for semester

passes. I arrived at the ticket machine in lot 4 and after depositing the requisite charge, I noticed that I was not the only one in line. The question I was left to ponder was this. If the passes are all sold out, then aren't the people who purchase daily tickets taking a spot away from those who bought semester passes?

It is a legitimate dilemma that needs a solution.

The solution is simple. Sell the passes to the people who want and need them. Students who drive cars and have a full slate of classes should have the right to a pass. Why should they be penalized by having to pay \$2.25 per day when educational costs are already high enough?

The school sells the parking passes so that students can take advantage of a good parking deal. Worked out over a semester it amounts to just over 75 cents a day. A far cry from \$2.25.

Yet, through some administrative blunder this sweet deal is being denied them because someone is waiting for the hypothetical dropouts and carpoolers to get their act together and free up some spots.

I say, sell the passes and let the chips fall where they may. Students have varied enough schedules so that spots in the beloved parking lot are frequently vacated. Everyone can be accommodated.

## Guest Columnist

By K. William  
Wier

### Volunteering benefits everyone

In this era of sweeping change and economic instability, gaining the education and skills to find meaningful employment has become very challenging. For individuals trying to enter the job market, volunteering offers great potential.

Volunteer work provides an opportunity to gain valuable skills and knowledge that can be transferred to the labour market.

Since an increasing number of employers are accepting volunteer work as a valid part of work history, volunteer experience has become marketable.

Volunteering is a proven way to gain practical knowledge, learn new skills, make new contacts and develop potential job references.

As young people prepare to make the transition from school to the workplace, volunteering can give them enormous advantages. Hands on experience as a volunteer can lead to new insights and perspectives that are unlikely to come from textbooks and lectures.

Volunteering also gives young people opportunities to build their skills and to better understand themselves and the world of work.

By helping others, volunteers are able to help themselves. By offering a relatively small amount of time to a child, or someone else who needs a helping hand, a volunteer can make that person's experience a more positive one, as well as reap the personal benefits of being involved in the community.

K. William Wier is the resource co-ordinator for the children's centre at Notre Dame of St. Agatha, a pre-school program for children experiencing problems in social, emotional and/or behavioral development. For more information about volunteering call 741-1123.



## TAKING SIDES

**Do you think the student drug plan offered by the Doon Student Association should be compulsory?**

### Students should be able to choose

By Heather M. Graham



It's a new year at Conestoga College but students will still have to deal with an old issue. I'm referring to the student prescription drug insurance plan that forces every student at the college to pay an extra \$55.62 each year for prescription drug coverage whether it's needed or not.

I use the term "force" because the compulsory fee has been covertly tacked on to our tuition so if we don't pay we can't register for classes. No options have been given to the students. You either pay or you walk away.

I'm not denying that drug coverage is important. The problem is the college has adopted a backward attitude when implementing the plan that has infringed upon the rights of its students.

Every student at this institution should have the choice of whether they wish to have prescription drug coverage before they have paid for it, not after.

In a recent informal survey I conducted the majority of the students who were asked to comment said they feel the plan should be optional.

Simply put, prescription coverage for students should be an opt-in, not an opt-out, plan.

Many of the students who attend the college are already covered under their parents health-plan or through social assistance. This makes a compulsory drug plan both unfair and unjust.

Prescription coverage should be offered to students without a drug plan, giving them the choice to opt-in to the one offered at the college.

Those students already covered under private health-care shouldn't have to deal with the hassles of opting-out.

As it stands, students who have coverage and decide to opt-out must stand in line-ups, fill out forms and bring proof of alternative coverage to the Doon Student Association (DSA) office before Sept. 29 or they will have to pay for the unneeded coverage.

It doesn't end here. If all this is done correctly there is still the waiting game for the refund cheque. This process usually takes about a month. But let us not forget how long it took last year—over four months.

This time-consuming process not only deprives the students of their right to choose but also deprives them of money they could be spending on needed books and supplies.

The DSA needs to be reminded of a person's inalienable rights as citizens of a democratic country.

If the DSA wants to make a drug plan mandatory they should put it to a vote.

For many students the cost of prescriptions is the least of their worries. Perhaps they would not be so reluctant to pay for a health plan if it also included eye and dental care.

## campus comments

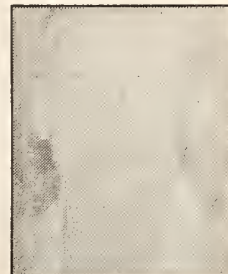


"No. It should be optional. If I want it, I'll inquire about it."

**Richard Habsch**  
Accounting

"No. It is a good idea for those who need it, but for those who don't, it's a hassle."

**Sheila Bak**  
Early childhood education



"No. I'm already covered and I think a lot of people are."

**Murray Kenny**  
Accounting

"Yes. People are too worried about the money. It pays off."

**Katia Hrienko**  
Law and Security

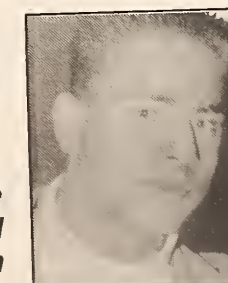


"No. The college takes its time to reimburse us for the money they already have."

**Debbie Keller Hudson**  
Accounting

"No. The money I save on the plan could be better spent on school supplies."

**Colin Drake**  
Early Childhood Education



### Drug plan is benefit to all students

By Samantha Craggs



The drug plan is a convenient and necessary service to the student body and it should remain compulsory as long as there are students who use it.

Many look at the drug plan as an added \$55.62 tacked on to the tuition fee only to annoy students and make extra money for the DSA. This is not the case.

The students who feel this way either don't need the drug plan or are uninformed on its benefits. The ones who do use it benefit from it the entire year.

Students who complain of having to pay \$55.62 should consider this: if you have to buy medication only once this year, you will already have benefited from the coverage. Most medication costs well over \$55.62, and without the drug plan this money comes straight out of the student's pocket.

With the diversity of the student body, many mature students are out of work and not covered under a company health plan. The only health plan available to them is the one offered by the DSA. For an additional fee, these students can include their family in their coverage and receive benefits they wouldn't otherwise have.

Students who are unhappy with the drug plan figure they'll never use it, but it is a case of expecting the unexpected. No one likes to pay car insurance either, but you never know when it will come in handy.

If a student needs medication or treatment, he or she could end up paying thousands of unnecessary dollars when he or she could have paid \$55.62 and saved money.

If the drug plan fee was optional, the students who chose to pay it would end up paying a lot more money because there would no longer be a bulk discount.

If only 13 students decided they need the coverage, those 13 students could end up paying five times the amount for coverage.

Female students covered under the plan receive a huge discount on birth control, which under normal circumstances would cost anywhere from \$18-\$25 a month. With the drug plan, birth control costs under \$5. The easier it is to access birth control the better it is for the students.

Students who don't need the coverage can always opt out. It isn't that difficult to provide proof of alternate coverage before Sept. 22. Students covered under other plans have the option of getting their \$55.62 back.

For those of you who have alternate coverage, take the extra five minutes and visit the DSA office.

For those of you who don't, plan for the worst and happily pay the \$55.62. If you ever need it, it will more than pay off.

# YES

Do you have any topical questions you want straight-forward answers to? Send them to the editor or staff in Room 4B15, or call SPOKE at 748-5366.

# NO



# Conestoga residence kicks off quieter year

*By Samantha Craggs*

A new year has begun at Rodeway Suites, and manager Paul Holowaty said in an interview, this year the residence will be a more enjoyable place to live for studiers and partiers alike.

"We're here to provide a social atmosphere and also a good study atmosphere," said Holowaty. "The two go hand-in-hand."

Holowaty said last year the students got a little out of control and it was hard for the people who wanted to study to get any work done.

Management, he said, had a lot of complaints from students and a lot

of damage was done to the building because people thought they could do anything they wanted.

"We decided to take control of our building again," Holowaty said.

Part of this new order can be attributed to Werner Frey, Rodeway Suites's new night clerk and security supervisor.

Holowaty said Frey's responsibility is to ensure that the building stays quiet after 11 p.m. and that no damage gets done and no one gets hurt.

He said Frey makes sure there are no unwanted visitors in the building and no parties get out of hand.

"We had a lot of students move out halfway through last year be-

cause it was just too loud," Holowaty said. "That's not what we're about."

**"We decided to take control of our building again."**

— Paul Holowaty  
Rodeway Suites manager

Guy Peters, Rodeway Suites's assistant manager, said many parents have commented on how it gives them peace of mind to know that someone is keeping the building secure 24 hours a day.

Holowaty said the residence has planned a lot of big events for students this year, thanks to a new and improved residence council.

"It's not a popularity contest this year," he said. "We had the elections too late last year, and basically the biggest partiers got elected."

Kim McNeely, 20, a second-year law and security student, is the residence's social convenor and second floor don.

McNeely said everyone has a good outlook on the council this year.

McNeely said there will be floor competitions, starting with intramural soccer.

She said at the end of the year she hopes to have a point scale and the team with the most points will have a celebration.

McNeely said she is also trying to organize residence t-shirts and other things to get everyone involved.

McNeely said there will be monthly parties with a bring-your-own-beer policy, plus Christmas and Valentine's Day parties, scavenger hunts and a year-end going-away bash.

Overall, Holowaty said this year is a lot easier for him because the building is cleaner and the students are fun and responsible.

"Our only rule is to respect the building and the people in it," Holowaty said. "Have a good time, and remember that there are 231 other people living here."

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WOMEN'S RESOURCE AREA

Who: any interested employee/student

What: update on what's been accomplished  
discuss what's to come



Rodeway Suites manager Paul Holowaty sits back to enjoy the new found peace of a smoothly running residence.  
(Photo by Samantha Craggs)

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# CONESTOGA LIFE

## Tune in, turn on to campus radio

Featuring classic rock and hits of the last 25 years

*Perry Hagerman*

The two campus radio stations, CJLT and CRKZ, began broadcasting Wednesday and will air their programming from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday to Fridays for the rest of the semester, said Paul Scott, co-ordinator of Conestoga's radio and TV broadcasting program.

One station will broadcast into the student lounge and the other into the cafeteria, said Adam McCarthy, program manager of CJLT. Sometime during the year they will switch venues between themselves.

Both stations are produced by students of the program and will feature music, news and feature reports, said McCarthy.

The music will differ between the stations with CRKZ featuring classic rock with about 50 per cent hits and 50 per cent other cuts, said Scott.

CJLT will be playing the music hits of the last 25 years, Scott said. "It is based upon the demographics here at the college," he said. "If you look at students in the broad 18 to 35 age group who are attending this institution, then it really does definitively spell out the time frame for music."

The staffing of the stations is being provided by the third year students with first and second being involved with news labs and their own productions, said McCarthy.

"They get an opportunity to utilize their creative processes," he said.

A typical hour of programming is not just music, said McCarthy. "Obviously, there is the music which is distinctive between the two stations, but then you have commercial spots, news, weather, and public service announcements that may be from the campus or organizations in the community at large," he said.

The stations will be trying different ways to promote themselves, said McCarthy.

They need to establish co-operative relationships and cross promotions with organizations such as the DSA and Spoke.

Sales and promotions manager Sandra Henein said that they are producing T-shirts which will be for sale in the future.

This is the first year that the student will be officially driving two radio stations, said McCarthy.

"When we were in second year, we decided that because there were 30 of us in second year of radio and TV broadcasting, we wanted to have enough jobs and things for ourselves to do," he said.

Now that they are in third year and specializing in either TV or radio, there are only nine of them to run the two stations, he said.

"We're looking forward to the challenge."

## Student expands horizons in Germany

*By José Compta*

Stephen Hauri, a third year student in Conestoga's robotics and automation technology program, will go to work in Germany in October in a three-month co-op work placement exchange.

Hauri will be there to work for the research centre in Karlsruhe, said Larry J. Rechsteiner, director of international education at the college.

Rechsteiner said the program was initiated in June of 1990 when representatives of Germany, France, Italy and Spain signed an agreement for co-operation in activities related to technology transfer, business and industrial collaboration, environmental improvement, cultural exchange, and advanced education and training.

Rechsteiner said, in May 1993 a letter of intent was signed between the Baden-Wurttemberg Ministry of Science and Research and the Ontario Ministry of Education and



Training to extend the involve ment to the Ontario college system.

Pamela Seebach,

co-ordinator of student employment and co-op education at Conestoga, said Hauri is one of the first students to go overseas in a work placement exchange, and he is the first one in this particular program.

Seebach said the co-op department monitors the students' activities and progress during the work terms, usually going to the working sites and talking to the students and their supervisors.

In this case they will be talking to the student by phone and getting the evaluation forms completed by the

employer.

Brian Morriss, co-ordinator of the robotics and automation program said the third year students finished their last semester at the end of August and are currently in their work terms.

Rechsteiner said the students applying for the Ontario/Baden-Wurttemberg exchange program should have a working knowledge of the German language. As well students should be close to the top of the class and have completed at least one successful work term in Canada.

To encourage and facilitate student involvement in the program, successful applicants will receive an academic award of \$1,500 from the Ministry of Education and Training, Rechsteiner said.

The Berufsakademie program of Baden-Wurttemberg offers placements in the areas of business administration, engineering and social work, Rechsteiner said.

## AIDS Awareness Week October 1 - 7



**\* Sunday, October 1**  
Walk for AIDS  
Pick up sponsor forms at DSA Office

**\* Tuesday, October 3**  
Information Display in Lounge  
Red Ribbon Campaign

**\* Thursday, October 5**  
Red Ribbon Campaign  
Information Display in Lounge

**\* Monday, October 2**  
Information Display in Lounge - Get Informed about AIDS  
Red Ribbon Campaign

**\* Wednesday, October 4**  
Information Display in Lounge  
How to Cope with AIDS - drop in Room 2A65, 6 - 7 pm

**\* Friday, October 6**  
Red Ribbon Campaign  
Information Display in Lounge

For more information see April at the DSA Office

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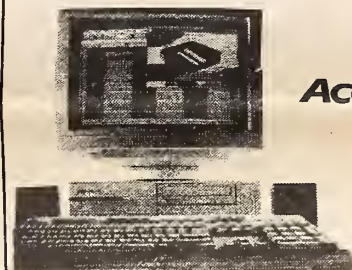
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# CONESTOGA LIFE

Lifestyles Editor: Leanne Moses 748-5366

## Two thumbs up! Students respond enthusiastically to new lounge

By Heather Milburn  
Graham

It's easy to recall memories of the former student lounge with its cramped quarters and litter-strewn floors.

The advertisement flyers that plastered the walls in chaotic formations like new-age art murals.

The smell of pungent foot odor that clung to the air.

Arcade machines that screamed like airplanes in a death spin.

The endless clatter of pool balls breaking as you desperately tried to catch 40 winks before your next class.

Easy to recall, but difficult to forget.

However, students at Conestoga are giving it their best shot as they move into the new lounge. The blinding light from a sea of happy smiles says they're giving this lounge top marks.

"It's definitely a lot nicer than the old

one," said management studies student Nicole Smith.

Smith said the reason the new lounge outshines the old one is because it's roomier and there is always a seat.

She said she also enjoys the fact that there are separate rooms for the arcade games.

"I like it. There is always something going on," said business and marketing student Stephanie DenHaan.

Though DenHaan admits she never spent time in the old lounge she said this one is an excellent meeting place.

"It's easier to walk through," said CPA student Dave Brown. "It has a new smell, not like the old one whose smell resembled a locker room."

"It's really comfortable," said business student Miranda Sim.

"I like that it isn't two levels anymore," said business management student Lisa Mooney. "It's so not

segregated."

When asked if there was anything that he thinks could be improved, Mooney suggested adding vending machines.

Computer programmer analyst Jeff Holtham said he'd perhaps like to see a snack area, a bar or maybe even a serving staff.

"I realize Harvey's is just over there," said Holtham as he stares at his feet resting comfortably on the table in front of him. "But it would be better if there was something closer."

One final change is scheduled for the lounge, though, and that will be its naming.

Last week students pencilled their favorite pet names on ballots hoping one would be chosen for the nameless space.

Becky Boertien, director of student life, said the lounge will have one before Sept. 12.



Paul Letter, a second year CAD student, takes full advantage of the new student lounge and catches a few winks before class.

## Recent government cuts hurting single parent families

By Lise Eleanor

Debbie Keller Hudson is entering her second year in computer programming. She is also entering her third year as a single parent.

When she made the decision to go back to school at age 37, to acquire marketable skills, she thought she was securing a better life for herself and three children.

Now, she said, she is questioning that decision.

On Oct. 1, Hudson will lose \$339.98 of her family benefits

cheque each month because of a 21.6 per cent cut brought on by the Harris government. And, now that the jobsOntario Training Program has been scrapped which helped put her into school, Hudson will be forced to pay an additional \$168 per month for daycare.

"As it is, I only have \$250 each month after expenses to cover food, clothing and emergencies," said Hudson. "On Oct. 1, I'll have \$510 less of that on the table."

Hudson said she was unprepared for the cuts to mother's allowance.

She said that, the day before the election, she telephoned her MPP to ask specifically what welfare programs would be cut.

"I was told that parents of small children would not be affected. That means me," said Hudson, whose children are aged two, four and 12.

In early August, Hudson heard about the proposed cuts and wrote a letter to Stratford MPP Bert Johnson. She detailed her position, the effect a cut would have on her family and said she wanted to

speak with him in person about this issue. When she walked out of his office two weeks later, she was informed that a copy of her letter would be forwarded to Mike Harris's office for response. Frustrated, Hudson said she felt she had at least made her voice heard.

On registration day, Hudson went to student services at the Registrar's office to advise the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) that an adjustment would have to be made based on a change in estimated income.

Fixing the \$500 per month miscalculation was critical, said Hudson, so she went in armed with proof.

"They said, 'We don't know that it's going to be a definite cut'," said Hudson. "They said that until they heard something from the ministry, they were not prepared to make an adjustment."

Hudson's proof was a letter from the Ministry of Community and Social Services explaining how the cut would affect her family.

She said the letter was dismissed.

# Fall

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For more information about any programs  
call the Recreation Centre @748-3512

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Clinics and instruction will be available Sept. 21. Meet at the squash courts in the Rec Centre at 4:50 p.m. Your instructor Ernie Falkiner will meet you. Round robin play begins Sept. 28 at 4:50 p.m. Just show up!

Call about our employee/member squash league!

### Community Programs

There are a number of exciting programs and leagues available for both adults and youth that operate year round. Sign up at the front desk of the Recreation Centre.

These programs vary in cost. To inquire about what's available call 748-3512, ext. 386



# CONESTOGA LIFE

## Beating the blues

### Small worries require a little attention to prevent student depression or crisis

By Jeannette Cantin

The first few weeks of school are always stressful, especially if you're new to Conestoga College.

If it's also your first time away from home, or you find it hard to make friends, the stress may be more acute.

According to registered nurse Marilyn Fischer, health services, many new students experience a high level of anxiety at this time of the year.

In fact, of the pamphlets located on the wall outside of health services, those dealing with depression were the first to be snatched up by passing students.

People deal with stress and anxiety with varying degrees of success, Fischer said. Often, the problem for younger students is missing family and friends.

"At this time of the year, it's more of a homesickness and anxiety, as opposed to a deep depression," Fischer noted.

Students straight out of high school may not eat or sleep properly, and may find it difficult to make friends, she said.

Sometimes, she added, financial worries are the culprit. If a student has already gone over budget, he or she might worry about buying food.

"Certainly no one has to go without eating," Fischer said. "Funds are available -- there is always something they can get."

Fischer emphasized the importance of dealing with these anxieties at the earliest possible stage. "We want

to get at it before it becomes a serious problem," she said.

Left too long, a case of "the blues" may turn into a deeper depression.

Fischer said Conestoga offers a wide variety of student services, designed to make life easier. Financial advisors, counsellors and peer tutors are all available to ease anxieties. Students are welcome to come to health services any time "to sit and have a chat,"

Fischer said. If health services can't help, they will refer the student to the appropriate source.

This includes referring people to resources outside of the college if need be, Fischer said. Appointments can be set up with the community crisis centre or a social worker if the situation is serious.

While occasional bouts of sadness are normal, there are persistent symptoms to watch for which may indicate a more serious problem, according to the Bristol-Myers Squibb pamphlet, *Depression, A Better Understanding*. The pamphlet lists frequent crying spells, irritation over little things, a loss of interest in activities that were once enjoyable, a feeling of failure, an inability to concentrate or a change in eating and sleeping patterns as warning signs.

Suicidal thoughts are an indicator to seek help immediately. The pamphlet points out depression is an illness, which, like any other illness, requires adequate treatment.

"There are lots of services available for help," Fischer said. "Use them."

**Frequent crying spells, irritation over little things, a loss of interest in activities that were once enjoyable, or a change in eating and sleeping patterns are warning signs of a depression.**

*Depression, A Better Understanding*  
Bristol-Myers Squibb pamphlet

## Special needs students offered special services

By Linda Yovanovich

Getting settled into the school year is difficult enough for most students who are new to the college experience. For students who are physically impaired the challenges can be even greater.

Conestoga's Special Needs office offers services to the college's 240 special needs students who have a documented disability. Such disabilities range from dyslexia to deafness.

In dealing with students with both physical and learning disabilities, the centre assists students in and outside of the classroom.

The centre has services which aid special needs students in various aspects of their learning. One way they are helped, special needs assistant Judy Hart said, is in testing. "We can arrange for extended time on tests," she said.

Hart emphasized the fact that students with special needs must have a documented disability. Not just any student can receive extensions on their tests. She said she has had students come to the centre asking for an extension on a test after hearing that a friend received one.

However, for documented special needs students it is a different situation. For example, in the case of the college's four students who

are visually impaired, Hart said, the centre can arrange for the test to be read to the students by proctors. Proctors are often former Conestoga teachers who are now retired, she said.

Another way the centre aids students who are visually impaired, is by getting books on tape. Each student must get his or her own class book list. "It is the student's responsibility to find out what books are needed," Hart said.

If the books are not available from the Ross MacDonald school for the blind, then the centre can arrange to get the text recorded for the student, she added.

Volunteer note-takers and readers are also available as a service to visually impaired students, Hart said.

When a visually impaired student first comes to the college and meets with one of the special needs counsellors, she said, the centre can walk the student through the halls in order to find his or her classrooms. "Either we'll do it ourselves or find someone who will," she said.

Hart added that the college's four hearing impaired students have not needed as much assistance from the centre, compared to visually impaired students, because most of them can read lips. In the past the centre has arranged for sign language interpreters.

LIFE

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# Entertainment

Entertainment Editor: Steve Tuckwood 748-5366

## Lulu's gets rocking with Canadian bad boy Colin James

By Kean Doherty

You would never have known that Colin James was on the second last leg of an exhaustive Canadian tour when he played Lulu's on Friday, Sept. 8.

A packed house — few of whom were Conestoga students — were treated to a raucous display of James' blues stylings.

James opened the set with a couple of numbers from his new album, "Bad Habits", a funkier, bluesier album devoted to new and old.

The new included the smoky, lyrical "Freedom" and the harder edged "Saviour".

"Saviour" is a staccato, guitar-driven departure from his previous efforts. In it, James lets his back-up players display their talents and punctuates it with his own soulful vocals.

The old included a tribute to the late Delta Blues master, Robert Johnson.

Throughout the show and the five-song encore, James rarely took a

break and managed to keep the show lively with a minimum of posturing or showmanship.

When he needed to show his virtuoso guitar talents, he simply walked out to the end of the stage and leaned on the strings.

This was evident in "Boogie thing" when he soloed and was nearly upstaged by his energetic saxman.

The rockabilly number, "Breakin' Up The House" was a rompin', stompin' good number that kept the crowd boogieing on the dance floor and in the aisles surrounding the seating area.

Not ready to let James exit quietly, the crowd stomped until James returned to give them more.

To the delight of the crowd, James reached back and ripped into old favorites like "Voodoo Thing" and "Chicks and Cars and the Third World War".

He ended the night with his blues ballad "Why'd You Lie?", which turned out to be one of his better numbers, acoustically.

The acoustical problems were due to some poor sound mixing and some noticeable feedback on Colin's microphone early in the show.

Preceding James' set were two very capable blues musicians, who, if they were playing on their own would have been able to carry a show.

Local blues legend, Mel Brown, opened up with an instrumental worthy of his talents as a blues guitarist. He also managed to get a subdued crowd to their feet with an excellent rendition of "Mustang Sally".

Another Colin, this one named Linden, picked up the tempo where Brown left off and kept the crowd on the dance floor.

"Devil Music" was a highlight, a tribute to the roots of blues music, as perceived by those who thought it had its foundation in hell.

Overall, the trio, from Brown to Linden to James, displayed a stunning array of blues music, studded with rockabilly and funk.



Colin James put on an energetic show in front of a packed house at Lulu's Sept. 8. The event was part of the DSA's orientation week activities. (Photo By Kean Doherty)

## Former Highlander fights ninjas

By Sean Webb

Former Highlander Christopher Lambert brings his devilish grin to this J.F. Lawton film as New York businessman Paul Racine.

Lambert is casted as an American in Japan who finds himself in the middle of a blood war between rival Samurai and Ninja clans, fighting a battle which has lasted for 200 years.

Racine is pulled into the conflict when he witnesses the death of a Japanese woman by a Ninja clan led by Lord Kinjo.

Racine is also attacked and left for dead, only to be rescued and guarded at a Japanese hospital.

Kinjo sends his best men to kill Racine, while Samurai clan leader Taketo uses him as bait to set up their final confrontation.

Throughout the film blood spurts, gushes and drains from Kinjo's victims as he tries to find Racine. In one scene an entire train of passengers are slaughtered by the Ninja's.

### video review



### The Hunted

Starring: Christopher Lambert

At times the action scenes are repetitive and over played, but the tension displayed by the clans holds your attention. In the final scene Kinjo tells Taketo that the difference between Samurai's and Ninjas is that Sumurais fight for respect and Ninjas fight to win.

This difference in philosophies makes the movie interesting to watch. While the Ninjas use any advantage for victory, the Samurai try to uphold their honor.

This brag for honor is the key difference between the two clans, and directly effects the way they conduct themselves.

Like many action movies, the Hunted is not going to win any awards for its rich dialogue. None of the main characters engage in any long meaningful conversa-

tions, or express any heart felt emotions.

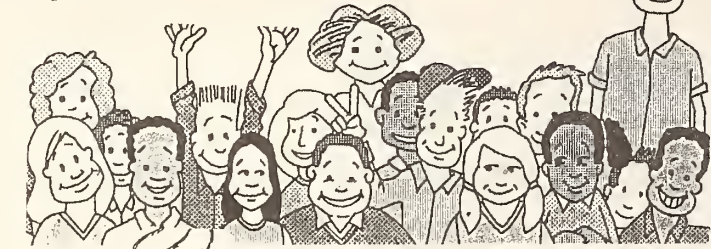
What this movie does well is tell a violent story with vivid imagery and realistic footage. Throughout the movie Racine sees images of the beautiful woman he saw murdered. This is really a hallucination caused by a small amount of poison left in his system when the Ninjas attacked him.

Although this movie has its shortcomings, writer/director J.F. Lawton does a brilliant job at entertaining.

In this movie Lawton gives an account of how the old customs of Japan are being pushed aside for the new world, which includes MacDonald's and boxer shorts decorated with pigs instead of swords and throwing stars.

## Afternoon in the Lounge

Spend the  
Afternoon in the  
Student Lounge  
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Wed. Sept. 27  
12 noon - 3 pm

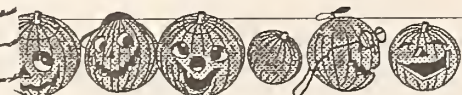
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For more information please see  
Becky at the DSA Office



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## Entertainment

# Dangerous Minds, from destructive to accomplished

By Lise Eleanor

It's September, the beginning of another high school year. The students enrolled into the Academy program, referred to as difficult learners and brats, are familiar with the routine. Their teacher-disarming tactics are well honed. Which ever unwitting teacher walks through the classroom door this term will go the way of the others — running out the door, never to return.

Amidst the cacophony of rap music, arguing, loud conversations and exploded tones, they await their next target.

Enter Miss Johnson (Michelle Pfeiffer), complete with frilly dress, looking quite bookish. Immediately the students peg her as an easy target. The noise level escalates to drum out whatever Pfeiffer

is attempting to communicate and her distress shows instantly. The students move in for the kill. Pfeiffer has no trouble finding the door.

As Pfeiffer attempts to contain her frustration by pacing the hallway, a fellow teacher and friend, Hal (George Dzundza), offers a simple suggestion — get their attention or quit.

The students, meanwhile, think they've won this battle.

They are soon to discover that they've only won the first round in a series of cat-and-mouse games that will go on in their classroom this semester. To the students' surprise, Pfeiffer comes back into the classroom. She steps up to the blackboard and writes, "I AM A MARINE."

Although this grabs their attention Pfeiffer realizes quickly that

the real challenge is in holding their attention. This sets into motion a string of innovative teaching methods as created by Pfeiffer that keeps everyone's attention.

*Dangerous Minds* covers a stratum of issues ranging from life in the ghetto and gang warfare to teenage pregnancy and despair.

But the strongest point made is that education is the key which opens the door to opportunity — to a world of choices — and everyone has the right to access that key.

Character roles are strong and relatively believable. Pfeiffer, as Johnson, carries with her an innocent charm and non-threatening demeanor.

Her face is weathered with deep lines showing her to be a mature woman. She is determined, intelligent and attractive — tools she uses to effectively win over a tough on-

and off-screen audience.

Her character is questionable at times by being too jump and timid to substantiate the marine image. However, she captures the viewing audience in much the same way she entraps her students — never saying what's next on her battle plan and everyone wanting to find out. All in all, a good role for Pfeiffer.

George Dzundza, who plays Pfeiffer's confidant, is not seen much in the film but has a strong impact when he does appear. Witty humor and a very down-to-earth attitude make his character easy to take.

The spotlight is shared among the students of the Academy program. Each has a distinct personality, a sense of who they are and what that means to them individually and collectively.

During the course of the two-

hour film, the students finish one term with Pfeiffer. They grow as students and as people.

The plot of the film is similar to the '70s movie *To Sir With Love*, starring Sidney Poitier, which pits a cultured and intellectual teacher against the unruly students he must teach. *Dangerous Minds* is tougher and reflects today's hardened society, but the goal is the same.

This movie does not contain graphic violence and sex but is rated Adult Accompaniment because of the mature and sensitive issues that it addresses. This is a movie that plays on emotions, has a high-energy soundtrack and maintains the viewer's interest.

When the curtain closed, a repeating comment circulated the audience as they filed out of the theatre — maybe there should be more Miss Johnsons in classrooms.

## Wanderlust's Prize misses the mark

By Deena Noble

I studied the cover of the Wanderlust CD titled Prize closely. The name did not sound too promising but the wispy, blurry trees that decorated the back cover emitted an aura of mystery.

The front showed a room with just enough light to see clutters of miscellaneous instruments scattered around like the band had just taken a five-minute break.

It was not surprising to find out they played "basement parties" in Pennsylvania suburbs before being discovered.

Perhaps the cover was a quiet reflection of where it all began.

Their songs are classified as pop-rock with an edge. Hearing the first song on the CD, *Wanna Feel New*, I agreed.

It was upbeat and lead singer Scot Sax had a calm voice that made you want to listen to what he was saying.

As the CD kept spinning, the in-

strumental remained especially good but the lyrics began to lose their edge.

The way Sax sung did not match the rhythm.

During some parts of a song, he would try to catch up to the intense pulsing of the drums, guitars and bass, or awkwardly slow down on a dragged out note.

To my dismay, the lyrics did not come close to being deep and mysterious like the blurry trees or the silhouettes of the band members on the inside of the cover.

I am not saying this particular group committed a cardinal sin, but lyrics that read, "now you see it, now you don't" and "complain, complain, complain, complain, but I'd rather stay in bed and watch the rain," does not simulate the senses or even attempt to be interesting.

The strive to be complex and meaningful is evident in the song, but unfortunately, it falls short of the mark.

*Before we fade*, when Sax sings "...there's me the superhero hidin' 'neath his cape hopin' that the rain won't fall on me." Sax kills it later when he compares himself to Gilligan from Gilligan's Island.

The songs become repetitive when every song concentrates on him and someone else.

There are good qualities to Wanderlust such as the design of their CD and having good musicians that know how to play on key, making a few tunes more than tolerable.

*I walked* is one of them. The rhythm and lyrics flow together, making me want to sing along. This song was their first single which established great potential.

One suburban Philadelphia paper described it as a song "with a hook that may grab you quicker than any other you've heard all year."

I liked it but I would not be that generous.

I would also use that same hook to throw the other songs back into the sea.

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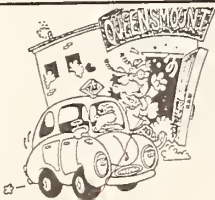
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Garage Sale - Sept. 21 by door 5, all proceeds to go to journalism awards banquet. To donate or for info call 748-5366, or come to SPOKE, Rm. 4B15.

G.L.A.D. - Gay/Lesbians at Doon are holding their first meeting Monday, September 18, 4:30 p.m. Contact Joan in Student Services.

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Giant R entertained crowds under the tent during Orientation Week. The band is an amalgamation of other local bands and includes (from left) Paddy Flynn, Paul McLeod, Dan Cornelius and Rob Szabo. (Photo by Anna C. Done)

Macbeth was hot, audience was not

By Pete Smith

theatre review

Macbeth  
Venue: Stratford Festival

The three witches aren't the only ones weaving magic spells in the Stratford Festival's presentation of Macbeth. Scott Wentworth in his eighth season at Stratford is unbelievable in the title role.

His rich, full voice lends itself well to the Festival Theatre. No one had to strain to hear his voice even when he is talking softly.

The classic story is presented traditionally without any modernization at all.

For those of you who were day-dreaming in Grade 10 English class, here is a brief summary of the story: returning from a battle, Macbeth and his friend Banquo are confronted by three witches who prophesy that Macbeth will one day be king.

Having impressed Duncan, King of Scotland, with his courage on the battlefield, Macbeth wonders if Duncan will appoint him king. But Duncan instead appoints his son Malcolm king.

So one night, the king crashes at Macbeth's castle, and Lady Macbeth goads her husband into killing Duncan in his sleep.

Macbeth does the deed and guilt

overwhelms him so much that he eventually sees visions and starts to go crazy.

Meanwhile, Duncan's sons Malcolm and Donalbain flee the country for suspicion has fallen upon them. Macbeth is crowned king.

Macbeth's rule eventually turns into a dictatorship and Macduff, the Thane of Fife, goes to England to ask Malcolm to reclaim the throne.

Macduff learns that Macbeth has had his family killed, Malcolm's forces advance on Macbeth's stronghold and Macbeth is defeated.

There is a lot more to it, as there is in any Shakespeare play, but that is the story in a nutshell.

The costumes were amazing and the use of light was spectacular. The play opens in complete darkness until, all of a sudden, there is a huge clap of thunder and flash of lightning and the witches are there.

The only negative part of my experience at Stratford were the two ladies sitting next to me.

I don't know what it is about some people who think they are in a soundproof bubble. These two chatterboxes hardly shut up through the whole play. "Aren't the costumes wonderful? What a superb fight scene."

These are things that should be discussed during the intermission or after the play. My tickets were complimentary of the festival but I would have been irritated had I paid \$50 for my seat.

But this minor annoyance was no fault of the Stratford Festival and hardly took anything away from the play.

Also worthy of mention were the performances of Seana McKenna as Lady Macbeth, Benedict Campbell as the betrayed friend Banquo and Paul Essiembre as Malcolm. This review would not be complete without mentioning their wonderful performances.

Macbeth is running until October 30 and is definitely worth the price of admission.

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# Life In The '90s

This supplement was produced entirely by semester two Journalism students

## Straight talk about homosexuality

by Diana Loveless

"For weeks I was on a natural high. I finally felt free."

This is how 22-year-old Adam Scotte said he felt after telling his family that he was gay. For him, as for many of his gay friends, "coming out of the closet" evoked a tremendous release of emotion coupled with an incredible sense of relief.

"Being closeted was very draining on my personality," Scotte said in an interview at the Guelph Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Equality (GLOBE) office on the University of Guelph campus where he is a volunteer.

Scotte, a fourth-year microbiology student at the University of Guelph, said he had been an unhappy person for years. He attributed this to his inability to deal with his sexuality. For years, he denied his true feelings. In truth, he said, he had always known he was gay, but had trouble admitting it, even to himself.

"It was useless and pointless to

live a miserable existence," he said.

Scotte spoke of a time in his life when he was seriously contemplating suicide. With the support of a straight friend, Scotte decided it was time to admit, to himself and others, that he was gay.

"If he hadn't been there for me, the results could have been disastrous," Scotte said of his friend.

When he finally started to open up about his sexuality, the response from those close to him was positive. His sister told him that she had always known he was gay and was instantly supportive. His parents appeared, to him, to be in shock for several days.

"After a few days, my parents put my sexuality into perspective," Scotte said. "They realized that it was just one part of me and it shouldn't change their expectations of me."

If anything, he said, it brought his family closer together because he no longer had to conceal his true feelings from them. He felt that the secret about his sexuality had erected a wall between him and his

parents. Once he told them, that wall came crashing down and a whole new line of communication was opened.

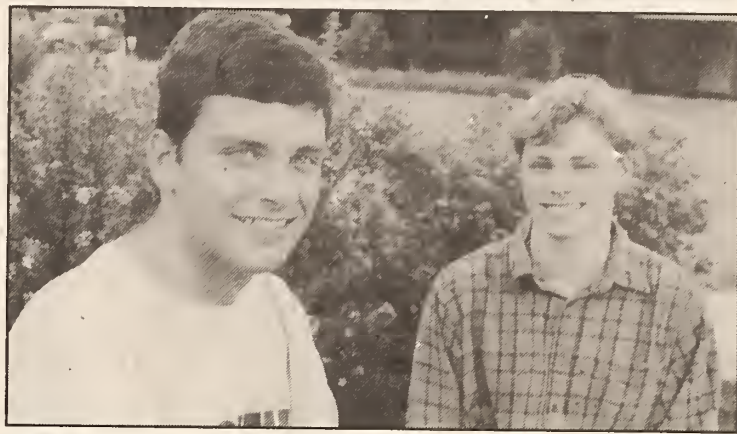
Scotte said his parents actually felt relieved at finally being able to understand the source of his years of unhappiness. They hoped that his "coming out" would give him some peace of mind.

Scotte has found a great support system in the gay community. He finds gays to be a very open and warm group of people who stick together and share a real sense of community. Within that community, he feels as if he belongs.

He is particularly impressed by the coming together of gay, lesbian and "gay-positive" people at the annual Gay Pride parade in Toronto. Although he was not able to attend the parade this year, he took part in it last summer. There, he experienced a feeling of euphoria at being surrounded by "his community."

At this year's Pride parade, over 600,000 people turned out to take part in the festivities.

"This is a number that cannot be



Chris Scotte, left, pictured with fellow GLOBE volunteer, Adam Swinemar.  
 photo by Diana Loveless

ignored," said Scotte. "Politicians must open their eyes to the numbers of people who do not have equal rights in this province."

"A lot of people think homosexuals want special rights, but in fact, they just want equal rights."

Scotte thinks it won't be long before homosexuals are recognized as equal citizens in this country, but, like all change, it will take time. In light of the recent court decision to allow a Toronto lesbian couple to have child custody, he believes the justice system will be

the main proponent of gay rights. He puts little faith in politicians who rank their own agendas ahead of taking action for what is right.

Scotte does not think that those who would see homosexuals condemned to a life of secrecy and second-class citizenship will ultimately prevail. He believes homophobia is borne of ignorance, misinformation and religious intolerance. He is neither ashamed of nor apologetic for a lifestyle that is, to him, completely natural and entirely comfortable.

## They knew it was much more than a hunch

by Tara Brown

With a lot of work and a lot of prayers, a Cambridge couple has managed to combine two very distinct families into one caring unit.

After the deaths of their spouses, Rob and Colleen Davis formed a new family which includes a total of seven children—three of hers and four of his. In an interview at their Cambridge home recently, they shared a little about what made their marriage so unusual and in some ways, more difficult.

Both of their first marriages ended when their partners died. Complicating the single scene were seven children. Also making things a bit more interesting than your average remarriage, both the Davis family and the Fietjes family had been living in the Asian rim countries for several years.

The Davises were based in Japan while the Fietjes were in Thailand. Both families were carrying out missions work with Overseas Missionary Fellowship (OMF) and because of the highly mobile nature of this work and the lack of adequate schooling for their children, both families put their kids into boarding schools. These schools were hundreds of miles

from where their parents were working.

Colleen's first husband, Koos Fietje, knew Rob's first wife, Marg, through the Ontario Bible College. Rob and Marg joined OMF in 1970. Colleen and Koos followed suit in 1972. Due to their affiliation with the same organization, the Davises and the Fietjes met during their work terms. Colleen remembers first meeting Rob in 1979 in Malaysia.

In 1981, Koos Fietje was teaching in Thailand. A shotgun blast hit him in the back. He died instantly. Colleen and her children returned to Cambridge a short time later.

A similar tragedy was to hit the Davis family in 1982. Marg was diagnosed with cancer. She died that same year. Rob moved back to Toronto with his four children.

OMF held regular prayer meetings and it was at one of these where Rob and Colleen met again. "Bells and whistles went off," Colleen said. "It was love at first sight."

Colleen later phoned Rob. "He was speechless," she recalled. "Shocked out of his mind!" They decided to meet at the Toronto airport. "We spied each other from about 100 yards away," he said.

There were several concerns for Rob and Colleen. Number one was the children. Two of the children were having a very difficult time with the death of their mother. It was a little less than a year since Marg had died and just over a year since Koos's murder. Colleen and Rob recognized the need to be very sensitive both to the children and to relatives still grieving for a loved one.

Of the four Davis children, the youngest, then only two or three years old, took to the new family set-up the best. His age and that of the youngest Fietje were close enough that they became best

friends. "They clicked from day one," Colleen said.

However, Rob's middle son did not make the transition easily. He had, unlike the other children, been at home with his parents when his mother was diagnosed with cancer. He had visited her in the hospital and was alone with the burden of watching his mother's illness progress. The older children were at boarding school in Singapore and his younger brother was simply too young to really be aware of the significance. As a result, Rob's son held back from Colleen and the other children for several more years.

Prior to the marriage of their parents, none of the children had been very close although they had gone to the same schools. After Rob and Colleen's marriage and the return of the family to the mission field, which also meant a return to boarding school for the children, the kids were identified as belonging to the same family even though their surnames were different.

The family was split between Thailand and Singapore. They were only ever together for a period of four months every year. Rob feels that this "probably lengthened the process of integrating as a family."

When the family returned to Cambridge, it meant a big change for parents and children. Colleen said, "We had to start being ogres about clean rooms and bed times. Whenever the children had been home in Asia, it was because they were on holidays but now there were rules and it was everyday life."

Colleen said she was never nervous about the sudden increase in the size of her family. "It didn't make me nervous," she laughed. "It made me tired." Rob said it felt good to have three new kids calling him "Dad."

## Rewards of caring for foster children outweigh the challenges

by Jason Witzell

For Joan Newport, fostering children is an experience that has taken her through a roller coaster of emotions over the past decade.

Newport, 42, of Brantford, has fostered nine children over the past 12 years. She takes in children with special needs and behavioral problems. She also takes in children who are handicapped or emotionally, physically or sexually abused.

For Newport, taking care of the children's needs and her own family needs is more than a full-time job. She took three years off from fostering so that she and her husband could adopt two children.

"I love children. It's a very rewarding experience. It gives me the opportunity to be with my own children at home without having to go into the workforce," said Newport, in an interview at her home in Brantford.

Newport is reimbursed by the government for things like room and board, dental or medical expenses and babysitting fees. Currently, she has two children in her care: Marissa, 2, and Tzegai, 9. The last names of these children cannot be published because of laws that protect children's identity in foster care.

Tzegai (known as Gai to the family) is mentally handicapped and delayed. He is blind in one eye and has a hearing problem and is also prone to seizures. This comes as the result of a virus called CSF his mother contracted while pregnant in Somalia. Tzegai still carries the contagious virus but it is potentially harmful to pregnant women only.

Tzegai has been in Newport's care for four years. His parents can't afford to provide him with the kind of care he needs. He visits his par-

ents, who live in Toronto, on weekends when arrangements are made through the social workers who are in contact with both families. He needs constant care because he is susceptible to a seizure at any moment. Marissa has been in Newport's care for a year and is a crown ward which means she will be in foster care the rest of her life.

In order to foster special needs children, Newport attends special training sessions in Toronto each year. She frequently meets with social workers to go over any problems she has encountered or goals that they have met. The child being able to hold a cup or bottle and bring it to their mouth would be a goal that the workers and Newport would set. It's a good feeling when the children overcome an obstacle like that, said Newport.

Newport gets physically and emotionally drained taking care of the children that come into her care. Newport said it's hard to listen to some of the stories on the backgrounds of some of the children, stories of physical and sexual abuse, children who are left to care for themselves because their parents abuse alcohol and drugs. The children are visibly and emotionally scarred and after hearing so many of the same types of stories happening to different children, it becomes upsetting to people who take in these special needs children, said Newport.

When Newport needs time for rest and relaxation she gets a babysitter and visits relatives in Kitchener. Even though fostering special needs children has been demanding, the experience is invaluable, said Newport.

"I believe it has taught me and my children to appreciate our lives and what we have," she said.

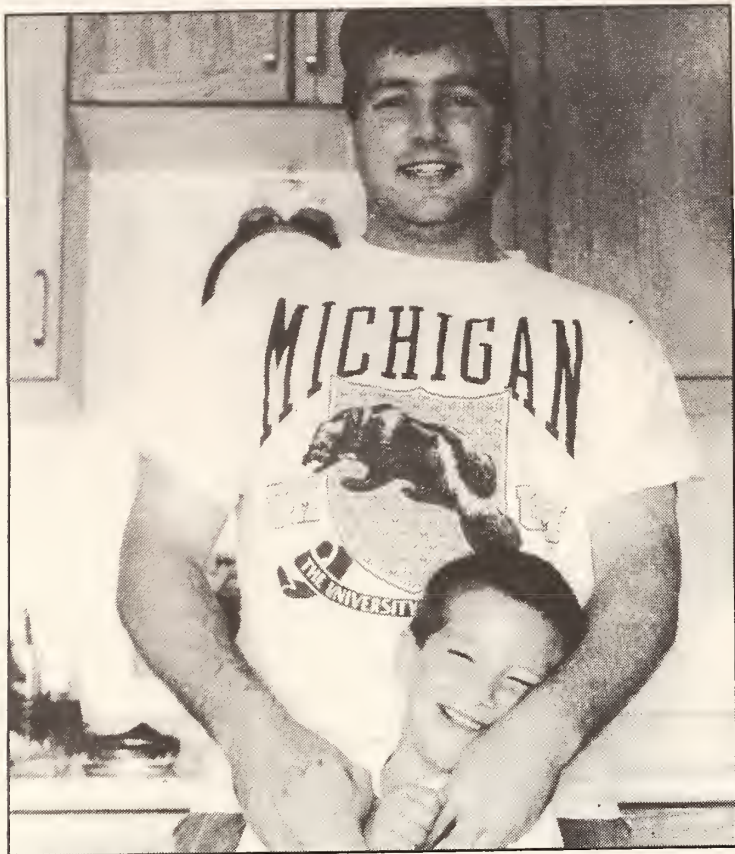


Colleen Davis.  
 photo by Tara Brown



# Life in the '90s

Supplement Editor: Diana Loveless



Single father Rod Murphy and son Matthew are happy in their Kitchener home.

photo by Ewa Jankowia

## Paying the price for a better life

By Naushaba Ahmed

Being in a new country and having no father around for months at a time can be a bit of a problem, sometimes for a Waterloo family.

When Amber and Nazish Ansari moved to Canada last summer from Pakistan, they were not aware that they would only have a part-time father here in their new home, they said in an interview Tuesday.

Amber, 18, and Nazish, 16, had been excited to start their new lives in a country they had visited several times but never thought of living in. Their father, Zakir Ansari, who is an avid businessman, wanted a better life for his family.

The Ansaris own a major ice cream factory back home and although Zakir is starting up a business here now, he is still a big part of the ice cream factory, and that requires him to keep going back home.

He is usually gone for four months and comes back for one, devoting all of his time to his family.

Amber said she doesn't really mind that he's not always around, because even in Pakistan, he was so busy that she hardly ever saw him. "He was at work all day and I was at school; then in the evenings I'd be busy with friends and he'd be out entertaining clients or be socializing with friends. We rarely saw him. I think I see him more now when he comes for the month every few months, than I ever did back home."

But it doesn't bother her; the time apart hasn't changed her relationship with either parent. Her mom, Khathija, who lives with the girls, has become a lot more dependent on her two daughters because back home they had servants and drivers and now the three of them have to pitch in and do all the work.

Nazish said she likes it better when her father is not here because he is stricter than their mother and she must always be on her best

behavior when he is around. She said she misses him when he's not around but it's not too bad without him either.

She claims her relationship with her mother has become better. Her mom is always there though, and that can be annoying. "When we were in Pakistan, she used to keep herself busy with her friends and her own stuff, but here she only has us. I feel bad for her because I know she misses her old life which was so cushy, but she needs to get out on her own."

Their mother misses Zakir the most. When he comes back she makes him take her out and spoil her for the time that he's here. She wants to go back, but they do not want to leave their daughters here alone.

Amber said she feels bad for their mother too; she's the one who's suffering here the most without their father. "Her life here has become nothing. At least we go to school and we have met new people. She has some relatives around but it's still not the same for her." Amber said as bad as she feels for her mom, sometimes she gets annoyed that she has to drive her everywhere and that is when she misses her father the most.

"Being the good kid, I have no other problems with my parents, especially my dad when he comes back. He got me a car when I passed my driver's test, so I guess I'm all set eh?" said Amber.

"Don't get me wrong, my father is a great guy. It's just so much more comfortable with just us three females in this little apartment. There never seems to be any privacy when my dad is back," said Nazish.

Zakir was just here and took his family on a little vacation. "We're not missing out on a father. We know he's there even if he's just out of reach for four months," said Amber.

Nazish likes being in an all-female household. "The toilet seat is never left up," she said.

## Single fathers a growing breed

By Ewa Jankowia

Through divorce, death and other circumstances, the number of single-parent households is growing.

Many people think that the increasing number of men who are heading single-parent families aren't encountering the same hardships as their female counterparts.

But for Rod Murphy, there is no difference between a man or a woman heading a single-parent family.

Murphy, 27, of Kitchener, is a single father of a son, Matthew, 5.

Murphy, born in St. John's, Nfld., came to Kitchener with his mother and six siblings in 1975.

When he was 21, he met his former wife who became pregnant four months into the relationship. "It happened so quickly. First, I realized that she was an aggressive woman and a heavy drinker; second, I was going to be a father; third, I could forget about having a beer with my friends, playing hockey or having any fun," said Murphy, in a recent interview. "I was 22 and my life was a hell."

Murphy said his wife, who was an alcoholic and used to drink even during pregnancy, became more aggressive and careless about Matthew.

"I decided to leave our home. I took Matthew, who was five months old, and went to my friend's house," said Murphy. "I was worried about where we were going to live and where the money was going to come from."

After a few months, Murphy was granted the full custody of his son by the provincial division of Ontario Court.

Murphy's life underwent a lot of adjustment. "It is not an easy task when you're juggling days and nights on the job and trying to raise a young child," he said.

He had been through more than a handful of babysitters but the childcare became too costly. He said he was lucky because he has a big family that helps him a lot.

"Usually I am so busy putting food on the table, getting to work, getting Matthew to the doctor and meeting all his other needs that it's not easy to find the time or energy to worry about other things."

"But I am happy and I love my son a lot. My only wish is to have more money to buy more things for him."

Murphy doesn't receive any spousal support. He works at Sunbeam Centre in Kitchener as a health-care person. It isn't a high-wage occupation, but he likes what he is doing.

Single mothers who are on wel-

fare are considered to be second-class citizens and they aren't getting respect, said Murphy. "I don't like it. I don't understand why people think of me as a hero. I am just Mr. Mom," he said.

He didn't want to sacrifice educational pursuits and career mobility, so he went to school. It was a tough time for him. There were times they didn't have money for food and clothing.

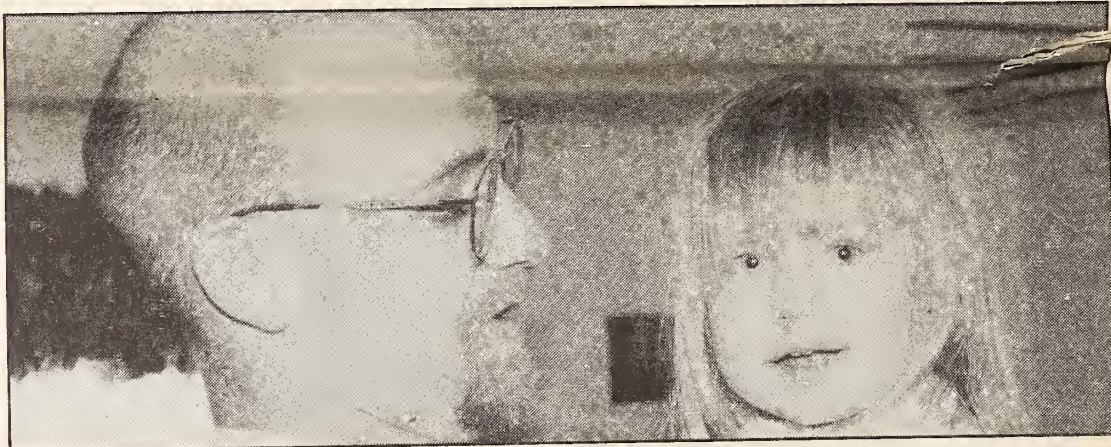
Statistics say that 27 per cent of lone-parent families are headed by men and less than 10 per cent of two-parent families live below the poverty line.

The other problem for Murphy was the fact that it is extremely difficult for one person to be all things. He plays multiple roles and it can be draining.

"I believe a child can learn the so-called male and female attributes from a single parent," said Murphy. "A child living with his or her father can learn caring, giving and sensitivity, as well as assertiveness ... just like a child living with his or her mother can learn both."

For Murphy, it would be ideal if there were less emphasis on sex roles in our society.

"I am a happy man and a father. I know there is a lot of love in my home," he said. "I hope my son will be a great hockey player one day."



Frank Thomas and his daughter Jessica, 2, enjoy a father-daughter moment at Thomas's home in Kitchener.

photo by Lori Blain

## Parental pressure forced his marriage

By Lori Blain

Frank Thomas, 25, of Kitchener, did not plan the birth of his young daughter, Jessica, but feels that she was the only good that came out of his young marriage.

Thomas's former girlfriend, Carrie, became pregnant at the age of 19 and so after much pressure from his parents and family, they married. The marriage was based on the fact that they were having a child and Thomas feels that was the only reason for the marriage. "I was in the relationship to please everyone else," he said in an interview on July 19.

After one and a half years, Thomas felt the marriage had dissolved and instead of having a happy home to grow up in, Jessica was constantly around anger and stress. "I feel the break up is better for Jessica; us getting married caused more problems for her."

He does feel he is living an unconventional lifestyle. He is separated from his wife, waiting on a divorce, and is living with his new

love, Shelley Marshall. "People are still getting divorced, but because I am so young, it's unconventional."

Thomas and his wife agree that the marriage should never have happened and if they had it to do over again, they probably would not have gotten married. Thomas feels his parents put too much pressure on him and blamed him for everything that happened. His parents had a large role in making the wedding happen.

Thomas has visitation with his daughter every other weekend and has his fair share of holidays. He and Carrie Thomas are civil with each other and are able to discuss their daughter's problems and future together. He pays child support and feels it is fair. "As long as the money is going towards Jessica, I will continue to pay it," he said.

He feels Jessica is much better off with her parents living apart and thinks Jessica is too young at age three, for the divorce to have any real repercussions on her. He thinks it may be harder on her when

she is older and friends ask why her mom and dad don't live together.

Thomas's new girlfriend spends time with Jessica and feels comfortable with her. Thomas feels it is up to Jessica and his girlfriend to determine what type of relationship they have. He does admit that Jessica is sometimes confused by what Marshall's role is, but he will explain when she is older and can better understand. "Shelley spends more time with Jessica than I do," he said. "I have to work sometimes when she is there."

Thomas says he will be there for his daughter when she needs advice. He will counsel her but will try not to influence her decisions, like his parents did. He wants her to make her own mistakes in life.

Although his marriage did not work out, it has not deterred his thoughts on getting married and having more children.

Thomas feels he has learned much by this experience. "Choices in life are up to you. Don't let anyone make you change your mind about it."



## Life in the '90s

# A true learning alternative

By Robert Klager

In an age when Ontario's educational systems are coming under increased scrutiny, Pamela Vair has found a viable alternative to traditional North American education in methods developed in Italy nearly 90 years ago.

When she talks about Maria Montessori, Vair is determined and passionate that the methods for educating children Montessori introduced in 1907 result in nothing but success. She claims proof in the children at Owen Sound Montessori school. Vair bought the school in 1993 and is the chief administrator.

In an interview this summer at her home in Owen Sound, Vair talked about Maria Montessori as a visionary, and about Montessori schooling as an option to be seriously considered.

Montessori stressed development of initiative and self-reliance by allowing children to do by themselves the things that interest them. She created special equipment of increasing complexity to direct the interests of children and hasten their development. This same equipment, including wooden blocks, beads and "floating alphabets", remains universal in the Montessori method and fills the classrooms at the renovated warehouse Vair, her staff and students now call their school.

Vair moved to Owen Sound nine years ago with her husband, Bill, and their children, Mike and Kendra. Soon after, a neighboring couple with nine children, all Montessori students, introduced Vair to Owen Sound Montessori school. She decided to enrol her children.

One day, the school called to ask Vair, a certified teacher, to cover for a Casa teacher. Montessori re-

ferred to nursery school as "Casa", meaning home in Italian. The idea was to promote an environment where the children could feel at home.

"Within two hours, I saw how they were teaching these children," said Vair. "I knew why the methods worked. These 2 1/2-year-olds were doing their own thing and learning from it."

In Casa, the children work on practical life skills using their senses to investigate their surroundings and focus on tasks at hand. Fine motor skills and small muscle control are developed in their hands.

"About three years after I started assisting at the school, the owner was considering retirement and asked me to continue her work since we shared the same philosophy about child education," said Vair. "She offered to sell me this school for an incredible price when she could easily have gotten more money elsewhere."

"One thing I've always wanted was a vocation that I felt single-mindedly sure about," said Vair. "Suddenly all my years of teaching and travelling around the world, combined with my work in advertising and government, came to this point and I knew this was what I was meant to do." It was then that Montessori became Vair's passion.

Today 100 children are enrolled at the school. Running from Casa to a Grade 6 level, it is registered and regulated by the Ministry of Education.

The teachers on staff have degrees and have attended Montessori teachers college. This is mandatory.

"I have never met such a dedicated group of teachers," said Vair. "These people truly believe in what they're teaching. Montessori schools are privately funded so

these teachers' salaries don't compare with those at public schools." Vair's school teaches the children language and reading, French, mathematics, practical life skills, creative expression through music and art, phys-ed and cultural studies.

Children coming out of senior kindergarten are reading and writing, and know basic mathematics including multiplication. Grade 4-level students study Shakespeare, do writing exercises in French and are confident in advanced mathematics.

Vair attributes the learning skills to the children's control of their environment.

"If children are comfortable and have control in their environment, they will learn," she said. "Children want to learn at this age; their minds are absorbent and they are fascinated. This is the ideal time to capitalize on their potential."

Once the children make the transition from concrete, hands-on thinkers to abstract thinkers, they have developed the learning skills they need to succeed, she said.

"We send students from here to senior public and then on to high school, and they can enjoy themselves and participate because they are so academically grounded," said Vair.

"This is all about self-esteem and awareness. With these characteristics, the learning skills these kids can bring to a problem are so beneficial."

"If parents would only enrol their children in the Montessori method for junior and senior kindergarten," she said, "It would change the face of education in Ontario."

Vair said seeing an average nine year-old student from her school form the basis for a quadratic equation with colored wooden blocks would tend to support her theory.



Pamela Vair, principal and administrator of Owen Sound Montessori school has solutions for education in Ontario.

photo by Bob Klager

## Canada: A refuge for Bosnians

By Claudia Ecsedi

It was an early morning on April 15, 1992, when terror and confusion struck the city of Novi Travnik in Bosnia.

"I remember it like it was yesterday. It was a regular day at school when suddenly students were being evacuated and we were sent home," said Dragana Meseldzija of Kitchener in an interview Wednesday night.

The 22-year-old immigrated to Canada on a Refugee Settlement Program in 1994.

Meseldzija and her family were evacuated from their home shortly after the city was attacked by Croats, Muslims and Bosnian Serbians. Those leaving the city were mostly Bosnian Serbs and did not take any personal belongings with them because they thought they'd be back in a few days. "Nobody expected the war to last this long," said Meseldzija.

"Our country lived together in peace for many years, but the night the war broke out, if your best friend or neighbor was not the same religion as you, they would kill you. I guess that's the hardest

no sense of direction; it was a time when I needed my parents the most."

Meseldzija has not seen her parents since the night they left their home in Bosnia.

"I miss them a lot. Every night I cry for my life to get back to the way it used to be in Bosnia. Even after all these years of searching for my parents, I still hope to be reunited with them once this is all over."

While in Serbia, Meseldzija only found peace with herself when she met others in the same situation. She realized she wasn't alone.

"My life has not been normal since all this began. I want to understand that all of Yugoslavia is suffering from this brutal war, but it's not as easy as people think."

In June 1994, Meseldzija received immigration papers to come to Canada. Her brother, however, did not and currently resides in Serbia.

"I constantly heard stories of Canada and the lifestyle there but I never believed it until now," she said.

The Canadian government has helped hundreds of Bosnian refugees come to Canada since the civil war started in the former Yugoslavia.

"I was flown to Edmonton, where I received full living expenses and education for one year," she said.

However, the panic in Meseldzija's life had not ended. She did not speak a word of English. "No matter how hard I tried I couldn't speak the language and for almost three months, I did not speak to a single person," said Meseldzija.

After pleading with the Canadian Embassy to send her to a city where there was a Yugoslavian community, she came to Kitchener.

"There are many Serbians here in K-W who've helped me get my life back on track. I never thought I would find a place I could call home again. I've made many friends here."

Meseldzija shares an apartment with a girl who also lived in Novi Travnik. Meseldzija currently attends classes at a St. Louis Adult Education school in Waterloo.



Dragana Meseldzija

thing to cope with today. How can people just turn around and kill one another after 20 years of living side by side?"

Meseldzija and her brother were sent to Serbia to live with relatives while her parents went to another city in Bosnia.

In Serbia, to support herself and her brother, Meseldzija was forced to work for the first time in her life.

"I was 19, had no life experience,

# Walking in Mennonites' shoes

By Jason Seeds

An Old Order Mennonite all his life, Melvin Metzger runs a small shoe sales and repair shop from his home in downtown St. Jacobs.

Metzger, who is in his 60s, has a 125-acre farm a few kilometres out of St. Jacobs that his 26-year-old son Paul now operates. There are 10 Metzger children and 30 grandchildren.

"I grew up on a farm in Wallenstein," said Metzger. "I lived there for 36 years before I came here. I farmed here, just out of town, till I retired two years ago."

Metzger and his wife, Melinda, bought the home at 92 King St. in St. Jacobs from a member of the church. When Metzger retired, they opened Melvin Metzger Shoes in the back of the house.

Although each family is different in how they follow traditions, Old Order Mennonites in general do without many modern inventions and luxuries. The Metzgers have no car, but Paul does use a tractor on the farm. Many farmers in their congregation of 300 people use only horses to plow the fields.

Television, tobacco and movies are strictly forbidden. Colorful clothing, or "fashion stuff", as Metzger calls it, is not allowed in the Mennonite church.

"I don't believe that's how God wanted us to dress," said Metzger. "I don't know if I'd call it sinful, but it's not right."

"Old Order Mennonites don't do without anything at all. People seem to think we do, I guess. We've got lots of modern things, an electric fridge and stove. I use a calculator to do the bookkeeping, and we have a telephone. Some of the families don't have electricity, no fridge even. But even those families don't go without. They are as well off as my family."

"We have strong beliefs, we have God in our lives, we have roots."

Religion is very important to Mennonites. Metzger's church studies the New Testament, he has many parts of the Bible memorized.

Metzger is ambivalent about the recent flood of tourists to St. Jacobs.

"I don't really care about all the tourism in town," said Metzger.

"You just have to learn to live with it, or leave. If it gets much worse I'll be leaving."

Earlier in his life, Metzger travelled west, with a few other men from his congregation, through Canada and back though the U.S. Old Order Mennonites do not travel by air, but do travel quite a bit by car. Mennonites do not go on spontaneous weekend trips, said Metzger. Travelling to see relatives is always planned well ahead of time.

"I went in a van once to see my brother in B.C. I guess about 10 or 15 years ago," said Metzger. "Travelled about 8,000 miles through Canada and the United States. I have relatives in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, who I see about five times a year." Metzger's relatives in Pennsylvania are Old Order Mennonites.

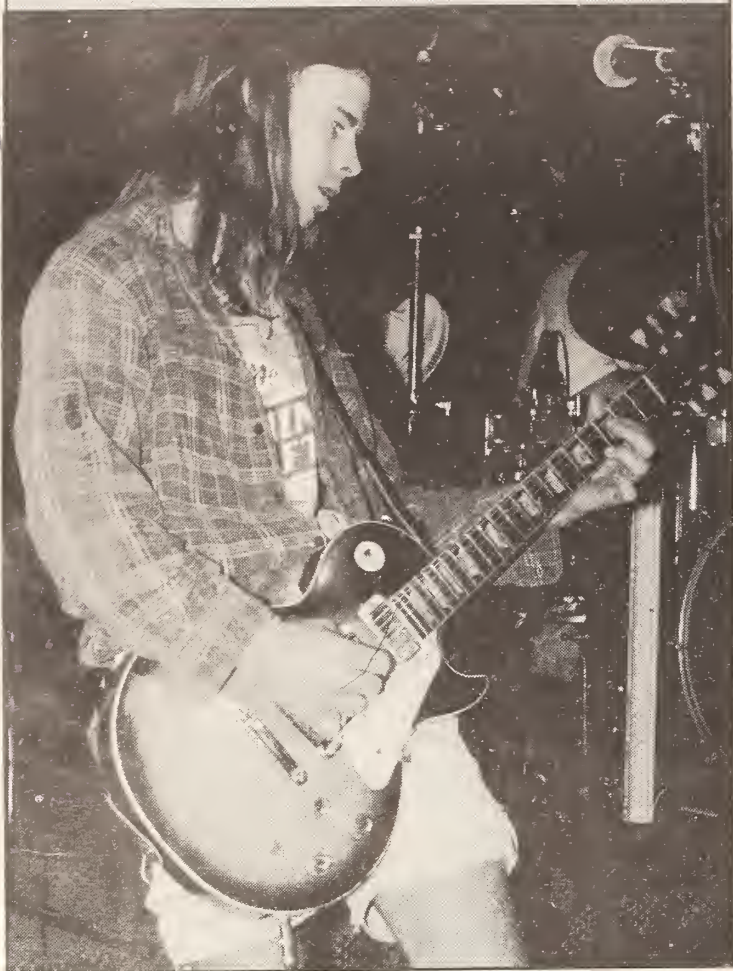
Metzger said the congregation he belongs to is entirely made up of people who were born into the church. He knows of a few Old Order Mennonites in other churches who have chosen to join. He said there are some who leave, but not many.



# Life in the '90s

Supplement Editor: Diana Loveless

## "Fishing with Jesus"



Mark Townsend plays lead guitar for local band "Fishing with Jesus".

Photo by Jason Romanko

## Living out a dream

By Jason Romanko

Mark Townsend is the lead guitarist in the Cambridge band, Fishing with Jesus. He is trying to accomplish what most people only dream of — living out a dream.

In an interview at his house, Townsend said, "I'm doing something I love — making and playing music."

"Me and the other band members put our heart and soul into our music," he said. "It feels great when it all comes together."

Living out a dream takes a lot of courage and determination, it helps to be in a supportive environment. "My family is very supportive of my decision," Townsend said. "They know I love it and they're behind me; it helps."

"My parents are like big kids; they're great," he said. "They like to come out and watch to see how the band's doing."

Keeping the working relationship separate from the friendly relationship between band members is a main ingredient in ensuring the sound stays fresh and it also keeps the members focused, he said.

"It's always fun to hang out, but when were at the jam hall, we're there to do one thing and one thing only," Townsend said. "After the jam, it's back to life's bullshit."

"We keep everything in the open," he said. "Everybody has their own input; it keeps the situation relaxed."

A lot of people don't consider the amount of work involved in creating the music and the preparation needed to ensure it sounds right on stage.

"We practise at the jam hall three

to four times a week and everybody gives 110 per cent," he said. "This is after working everyday. It's not easy."

The only drawback in making the music is it takes money and that's not always easy to come by, he said.

"I work to pay the bills," he said. "I'd rather be playing our music, but without the money, it just wouldn't happen."

Townsend knows the risk and he doesn't plan to do this forever if it doesn't work out. "Six months down the road it's a flop and you're busted," he said.

"After the band I'm gonna go back to school," he said. "This is my last chance and if it doesn't work out, it's time to take a different route."

"I see a lot of washed-up musicians trying to make it work, but that's not going to be me," he said. "I'm going to try and make this work, and if it doesn't, I'll move on."

The band is going to release its first compact disc. It's the first step towards making it, Townsend said.

"The CD (self-titled, 'Fishing with Jesus'), will be out soon," he said. "Hopefully we can get a video together, then we will see what happens next."

"A tour would be the next step," he said. "It would be hard to leave family but it's what we all want."

"We're all young and any time the opportunity arises we can just pick up and leave," he said. "Just get out there and pursue it and see what happens."

"You only live once; you might as well try something you love," Townsend said.

## Falling in love in Cyberspace

By Kevin Hansen

When Dave Kipfer wants to talk to his girlfriend, he doesn't drive over to her house; he doesn't even pick up a phone. He turns on his computer.

Kipfer, 22, a fourth-year honors computing and computer electronics student at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo and his girlfriend Rose D'Agnillo, an 18-year-old liberal arts student in Montreal, gave an interview on the internet Wednesday night.

Kipfer and D'Agnillo met about a year ago on the "net" and started dating Feb. 24. They first met in person on March 31 in Montreal. They met on IRC (Internet Relay Chat), an internet service which allows users to talk to each other from anywhere in the world for free.

Kipfer said he and D'Agnillo both logged onto the same IRC channel when online so they would "see" each other fairly frequently.

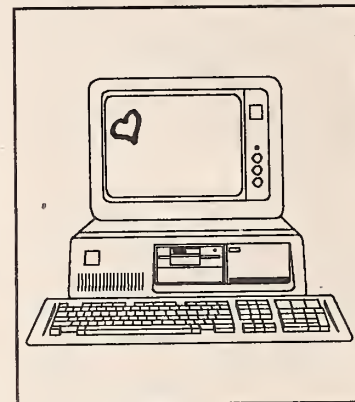
Kipfer said, "It's not unlike most long-distance relationships. We just happen to have the advantage of being able to stay in touch on a day-to-day basis."

"You run into people left and right here. Some you see again, some you don't," Kipfer said. "As far as people getting together, it all depends on how someone composes themselves. It is very easy to be deceived by someone on IRC."

Kipfer said, "One of the silliest

ways (to be deceived) is for someone to act in a way they are not. It is not uncommon for men on IRC to adopt a female personality and pick up other guys for fun."

The internet is not always free though. Kipfer's and D'Agnillo's internet access is provided free from their schools but for those people who don't have it provided for them, a typical charge is only



50 cents an hour.

"It's a great way to keep well in touch with someone that's far away without paying Ma Bell an insane amount of money," Kipfer said.

Kipfer has travelled to Montreal three times so far, and was to be there again on July 24. He has attended a number of IRC meetings in Toronto where people who first met on IRC gather to meet each other in person.

D'Agnillo said she spends four to five hours on the internet a day.

Kipfer said, "It went on and off

for me. Sometimes I'd abhor the godforsaken thing for weeks on end, and sometimes I'd be on for hours a day."

D'Agnillo said, "My father doesn't know the slightest thing about computers and my mom doesn't either. She always wonders why I'm always sitting in front of the computer. And well, she knows the answer."

"My parents don't understand the whole internet thing. My dad will admit he doesn't know how to turn a computer on. But I'm not sure exactly what they think of the whole idea of this, just that they feel long-distance relationships are expensive," Kipfer said. "One friend of mine, Chris, is in a relationship with someone he's met on the IRC as well, so he understands me very well. My other friends don't use the IRC or the internet as a whole, so I suppose they don't understand how someone from over here is dating someone way over there."

Kipfer said that a friend of his, from K-W, just married a man from Finland whom she met while posting mail on Usenet and now she's living across the ocean.

Kipfer said he's been on the net ever since he started school at Wilfrid-Laurier University four years ago, but he didn't get into IRC and other online services until two years ago. D'Agnillo said she started with IRC on the net two years ago.

## A marriage of complementing cultures

By Blake Ellis

"Color is blind," said Joppa Frasch, a black Moorefield-area woman, while talking about her life with her white husband, Zolton Frasch.

The parents of three children, ranging from ages of 12 to one, come from two different cultures and yet seem to complement each other and make their marriage work.

Zolton Frasch immigrated to Canada from Hungary in 1969 when he was 17. He had graduated from the University of Toronto with a degree in engineering when he went to Papua-New Guinea with the Canadian University Services Overseas program.

Joppa Frasch was working as a secretary and typesetter at a newspaper in New Guinea when she met her husband, who was teaching at a nearby college.

They hung around the same friends so they got to see a lot of each other and they decided to get married.

At first Joppa Frasch's parents didn't like the idea of their daughter marrying a white man until they got to know him, said Joppa Frasch.

The white workers or ex-patriots, who came to New Guinea, were a lot wealthier and of a higher class than the local population. Her family knew that this would be a step up and she could possibly have a better life than they could provide.

"Their tolerance is higher than ours" in Canada, said Zolton Frasch.

He soon found the local customs to be very different from his own and he needed more than the family's approval to marry.

He had to pay her father a dowry and it can be anything from pigs to money, going as high as \$20,000 depending on what part of the country you are in.

Since he didn't practise the same customs as the family, her father asked for an axe as a symbolic gesture.

"It was the most expensive thing in the store," said Zolton Frasch with a smile.

The couple were married in New Guinea by a justice of the peace in 1982 and their daughter, Trudy Frasch, was born a year later.

The Frasch family came to Canada in 1985 and lived for a short time in Toronto and Kitchener before moving to the Moorefield area in January of 1986.

Joppa Frasch got her first taste of western culture on a trip to Hawaii in 1982.

The couple went to a restaurant where there was a white janitor, who was picking up garbage, sweeping the floor and wiping down tables. That is a "black man's job," said Joppa Frasch as she recalled how shocked she was.

In New Guinea, the local black people did all of the dirty jobs and the wealthy white people were thought of as "superior," she said.

She recalled that she was scared when she came to Canada. "Everything is fast, not as laid back," she said.

The Frasch family find the people in Moorefield and the surrounding area friendly and they like living there.

They generally don't have any problems with racism.

"If you don't fit into the system, they won't like you and they will call us something," said Zolton Frasch.

His wife recalled a situation at Ranton Place, a Palmerston hotel. Two American truckers were in the whirlpool talking about how the "chinks" and "niggers" were taking all the jobs. Joppa Frasch, who was there at the time, said she wasn't insulted because the truckers were not mean spirited and were just talking. It probably just slipped out.

The Frasch family will be moving to a small town in New Jersey later on this year. The people were friendly, said Joppa Frasch, who went down to visit the town of about 2,500.

She said the people didn't seem to care that they were a mixed couple but first impressions do count.

"In the United States they come out and say they're racist where as in Canada, we're more quiet and sneaky about it," said Zolton Frasch.

"If you want to be a racist and a pig, go ahead, be a pig. That's you, not me," said Joppa Frasch.